



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

bronze period. I could mention other cases where the old circular wall has been partly eaten away by the encroachments of the sea in very sheltered bays and in situations showing great antiquity. Therefore, without expressing a decided opinion, I think it is quite an open question, and it is to my mind quite conceivable that almost savages might have constructed these dwellings though working with very rude instruments. I have always thought that the best clue to what savages would do is to see what children do. Children will constantly build beautiful round towers with even stones; but the same children, if they had nothing but the unequal instruments of Caithness would have had great difficulty to get the beautiful cutting tools that you see there. That does not affect the to my mind conclusive evidence of these excessively rude weapons being found buried in graves and similar descriptions of stones being found invariably.

The discussion was adjourned till the 20th instant.

DECEMBER 20TH, 1864.

CAPTAIN R. F. BURTON, V.P., IN THE CHAIR.

THE minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The names of the following gentlemen who had been elected Fellows were announced; F. R. Izard, Esq.; Robert Marshall, Esq.; Captain Samuel R. J. Owen; E. Tinsley, Esq.; Dr. J. Hillier Blount; G. C. Rankin, Esq.; C. Plummer, Esq.

The following presents were announced, and the thanks of the Society given to the donor (Mr. Conrad Cox). Kirkpatrick, "Account of the Kingdom of Nepaul;" Hodges, "Travels in India;" Turner, "Embassy to Thibet;" Isenberg and Krapf, "Journals in Abyssinia."

MR. C. CARTER BLAKE stated that a letter had been received from Mr. Pengelly in reference to some remarks in the discussion on his (Mr. Blake's) paper on Kent's Hole in the Journal of the Society. The following is the letter referred to.

To the Editor of the Journal of the Anthropological Society of London.

DEAR SIR,—Having taken an active part in the cavern researches which, at various times during the last twenty years, have been made in this county, I was much surprised on reading the following statement in the last (the November) number of the Journal, page cclxxv (mis-paged cclxv in my copy), viz.—"Mr. Roberts said that about four years ago the sum of £450 was granted by the Royal Society for the complete examination and clearing out of Kent's Hole, and a committee was appointed for the purpose; but owing to the gentlemen who composed it residing so far from the spot, and to other circumstances, they did not do much towards the accomplishment of the desired object. The chief thing they did was to discover about twenty flint implements in the mud of the cave, the whole of which were in his possession. He was afraid that nothing else was done by that committee, etc."

I may remark in passing, that I know of no cavern in Devonshire in which it is possible "to discover about twenty flint implements" without doing a great deal towards clearing out the cavern itself.

Having heard nothing of the labours, or indeed of the existence, of such a committee, I concluded the statement to be altogether inaccurate, and this conclusion was confirmed by inquiries which I at once made in the proper quarters. The Guide to Kent's Hole—without whose knowledge and consent no one can enter it—assures me that he has never been applied to by or for any committee, and that, with the exception of a few desultory diggings which he has himself made, there has been no investigation of the cavern since the partial one undertaken by the Torquay Natural History Society in 1846. The Assistant Secretary of the Royal Society, in a letter on the subject, says "the Royal Society never voted money for an exploration of Kent's Hole, nor have I ever heard that they were ever asked for money for that purpose."

It has been suggested that the error probably originated in confounding Brixham Cavern with Kent's Hole; but even on this hypothesis the statement is singularly incorrect, as the following facts will show:—

In 1858 the sum of £100 was granted by the Royal Society for the complete examination and clearing out of the Windmill Hill Cavern, at Brixham, and a committee was appointed for the purpose by the Council of the Geological Society of London. The committee entrusted the superintendence of the work to one of their number who resided in the neighbourhood, and they also appointed a local committee consisting of gentlemen residing at Torquay and Brixham.

The work was commenced about Midsummer 1858, and was carried on with so much success that, early in the following year, the Royal Society granted a second sum of £100, and liberal contributions were received from Miss Burdett Coutts, Sir J. Kay Shuttleworth, and the late Mr. R. Arthington of Leeds. A large number of bones and upwards of thirty flint implements were discovered, and, at the termination of the exploration, at Midsummer 1859, when the cavern was completely cleared out, these, together with numerous samples of the deposits and stalagmites, were forwarded to the apartments of the Geological Society, Somerset House, London, where they have remained ever since in the care of the Brixham Cave Committee, of which Dr. Falconer is chairman.

I do not seek to know how the mistake originated; but, believing it to be your wish that such errors as, notwithstanding your care, may creep into the Society's Journal, should be at once corrected, I beg to request you to read this letter at the *next* meeting of the Anthropological Society, and to print it in the February number of the Journal.

A line in reply will greatly oblige yours very truly,

WM. PENGELLY, Loc. Sec. A.S.L.

Lamorna, Torquay, December 14th, 1864.

The adjourned discussion on Mr. Laing's, Mr. Roberts's and Mr. Carter Blake's papers was then continued.